

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7665
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2002
IDENTITY CARDS
ASHOK KUMAR PATEL;PADAMSEN CHAUDHARY

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to make the `multi-purpose identity cards` mandatory;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (c): The Election Commission had made the use of electors' photo identity cards, along with other forms of identification, compulsory for identification of voters during the General Elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Haryana, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Pondicherry in 2001 and during the General Elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Manipur, Punjab, Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh held this year. The scheme to issue photo-identity cards to electors is a continuous and ongoing process (excepting for a brief period between the last date for filing nomination and completion of electoral process) on account of more number of persons becoming eligible for the right of franchise on attaining the age of 18 years as also due to movement of electors.